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Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

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Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 71/105 and is a compilation of replies from Member States related to scholarships and training facilities made available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

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I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX), Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training at the university standard but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI), offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme has been included in successive editions of the guide entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions, the Secretary-General submits to the General Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized. The previous report on the subject is contained in document A/71/70. The present report, which covers the period from 6 March 2016 to 8 February 2017, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution 71/105.

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 64 Member States listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the relevant General Assembly resolutions:

> Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

6. One non-member State, the Holy See, has also offered scholarships.

B. Offers and awards

Member States

Argentina

7. In a note verbale dated 25 January 2017, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 2065 (XX) and in subsequent resolutions, and the Special Committee on decolonization have described the question of the Malvinas Islands as a special and particular colonial situation, as it involves a sovereignty dispute between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; have established that the way to put an end to that situation is the peaceful and negotiated solution of the sovereignty dispute; and have requested both Governments to continue without delay the bilateral negotiations.

Despite the illegal British occupation, because the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands are part of the Argentine national territory, their inhabitants have equality of access with the rest of the Argentine population to the Argentine public education system. This includes free education at the primary, secondary and tertiary/university levels, as well as the benefits of the national scholarship programme offered by the Ministry of Education of the Argentine Republic.

Canada

8. In a note verbale dated 1 February 2017, the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Global Affairs Canada offers four programmes that have awarded 14 scholarships to students, faculty and researchers from Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Atlantic and Caribbean region (see tables 1 and 2). The department does not have a scholarship programme specifically targeted at students from Western Sahara. Inhabitants of Western Sahara and all Non-Self-Governing Territories are eligible to apply for the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships and Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships, Canada's most prestigious awards for doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows, respectively, working in the health sciences, natural sciences, engineering, social sciences and the humanities.

Table 1
Scholarship programmes offered to Non-Self-Governing Territories

Non-Self-Governing Territory	*Global Affairs Canada scholarship programme*
Atlantic and the Caribbean	
Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands	Canada-Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Leadership Scholarships Program
	Canada-CARICOM Virtual University Scholarship Program
	Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program
	Canada-CARICOM Faculty Leadership Program
Saint Helena	Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program

Table 2
Number of scholarships awarded by Global Affairs Canada between 2009 and 2016, by Territory

Non-Self-Governing Territory	*No. of scholarships awarded*
Anguilla	0
Bermuda	1
British Virgin Islands	1
Cayman Islands	11
Montserrat	1
Turks and Caicos Islands	0
Saint Helena	0
Total	**14**

Finland

9. In a note verbale dated 31 January 2017, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland informed the Secretariat of the following:

> With view to preparing the report called for in paragraph 5 of resolution 71/105, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is pleased to inform the Secretariat of a scholarship programme provided by the Finnish National Agency for Education. The scholarship programme is open to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories. Thus far, there is no information regarding any students from Non-Self-Governing Territories having applied for or having been granted these scholarships.

Germany

10. In a note verbale dated 1 February 2017 the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

> The Federal Foreign Office funds the higher education scholarship programme for refugees of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees through the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI). In 2016, 25 students from Western Sahara participated in the programme and received DAFI scholarships for their studies in Algeria. For more information, see www.unhcr.org/dafi-scholarships.html.
>
> The Federal Foreign Office also provides yearly grants to the Goethe Institute, which has the mandate to promote knowledge of the German language and culture abroad. The Goethe Institute offers scholarships for various teaching programmes in Germany to teachers of the German language. In previous years, nationals from Bermuda, Guam and Montserrat received such scholarships.

New Zealand

11. In a note verbale dated 8 February 2017, the Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

> The Government of New Zealand offered access to Commonwealth scholarships and six short-term training awards (for up to one year of study in New Zealand) to residents of Tokelau, in 2017. Only three applications for

short-term training were received by the extended deadline because the availability of these opportunities was not effectively communicated. Two candidates have been placed. One is studying towards a chief mate qualification and the other towards an electrical engineering qualification. A suitable course is being identified for the third applicant, and further applications for 2017 have been invited.

The Government of New Zealand provides budget support to the Government of Tokelau for the delivery of core education services ranging from early childhood education to foundational courses for tertiary study. The Government of New Zealand has contracted the Centre for Educational Development of Massey University to work closely with Tokelau's schools and Department of Education over a four to five year period to further improve these services.

The Government of Tokelau provides its own scholarships for undergraduate students, primarily at tertiary education institutions in the Pacific. In 2016, the Government of Tokelau contracted Massey University and the New Zealand Council for Educational Research to review the effectiveness of its scholarship scheme. The report on the review will be considered by the village and national councils this year.

As New Zealand citizens, Tokelauans who are residents in New Zealand are eligible for a range of domestic scholarships, as well as Government-subsidized access to New Zealand education facilities.

Residents of Tokelau also benefit from workshops and customized training delivered by various regional programmes funded by the Government of New Zealand. In 2016, for example, training was offered to Tokelau police and biosecurity officers.

Sri Lanka

12. In a note verbale dated 2 February 2017, the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

At present, in Sri Lanka, there are no scholarship holders from Non-Self-Governing Territories. However, 50 per cent of the 50 annually awarded Presidential Scholarships provided to foreign students to study in Sri Lankan universities are allocated for students from non-Asian countries. As there is no pre-determined allocation of scholarships by country, the Presidential Scholarships are open to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories as well. Applications for the scholarships are accepted through proper diplomatic and official channels, and applicants are selected on a competitive basis according to their merit.

III. Applications made through the United Nations

13. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

14. From 6 March 2016 to 8 February 2017, no requests for information on the availability of scholarships were received by the Secretariat.

IV. Conclusion

15. Scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories represent a valuable contribution to their educational advancement.